1. Who is the author? Francisco Jiminez.

 What is his background, meaning where is he from, where did he go to school, what was his lifelike growing up? Francisco is from Talaquepaque, Mexico but migrated illegally to Santa Maria California. El Camino Junior High School. He was frewuently woring as a migrant worker in the fields.

Describe his life now, meaning where does he live and work, what is his family like, what are his interests or hobbies, and so on? Fransico works at the Santa Maria University as Fay Boyle Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and served as Director of the [Ethnic Studies Program](http://www.scu.edu/ethnicstudies) at [Santa Clara University](http://www.scu.edu/). His wife Laura and there 500 children live in Santa Clara California. They have 3 boys. Francisco's hobbies include writing and listening to music.

1. Describe the author’s career.  Look above. Is he just a writer, or does he have another job, too?

When did he begin writing? Because Fran struggled in school with English he mostly started writing in college.

What else has the author written?  [The Christmas Gift](http://www.amazon.com/Christmas-Gift-Francisco-Jim%C3%A9nez/dp/0395928699/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1225423206&sr=1-1),  [Reaching Out](http://www.amazon.com/Reaching-Out-Francisco-Jim%C3%A9nez/dp/0618038515/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1225423206&sr=1-2), [La mariposa](http://www.amazon.com/mariposa-Francisco-Jim%C3%A9nez/dp/0618073175/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1225423206&sr=1-3), [The Circuit](http://www.amazon.com/Circuit-Francisco-Jim%C3%A9nez/dp/0395979021/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1225423206&sr=1-4)

What awards or special recognitions has the author received? The Pura Belipre honor book award for Breaking Through.

1. Why did the author write this book? To express his difficulties in school learing and adapting to the english language.

What is his connection to or interest in the subject matter?  Well, seeing as it's an autobiography the connection is that that was his life. What was his purpose for writing the book? To get the message across to people the challenges of being a completly forign person.

1. What is the publication history of the book?  Houghton Mifflin Company in 2001 New York, NY. When was it originally published?  Who published it?  Was any part of it published in any other form, for example was part published as a magazine article first?  If yes, where and when?  Are there any other publications, like other books, connected to it?  Yes the Curcuit is the first book and Breaking Through is the sequel to theat book.

1. What do professional critics say about this book? What do professional reviews of the book say?   Mst reviews I found were positive ones that supported the book with enthusiasm.  What magazines or journals reviewed this book?  VOYA, Publishers Weekly.

1. What do readers say about this book?  What do personal reviews by regular people say?  All of the reviews that readers give for Borders and Barns and Noble's have given very postive opinions expaining that the book is a great friendly resource for the young people that are going through the same thing as Fran.

1. Is there any controversy or differing opinions about this book or its subject matter? What is debated? People think that there is only English educatioon which is mostly true. There are mostly only english-speaking schools but there is also many spanish immergain schools but I agree not enough of these. Then again these are private not public and poor families would not be able to pay for these costs. Why? Because in this book when Fransisco struggles in school it brings up the idea of that the U.S. doesn't have enough schools for foreigns.

<http://www.scu.edu/fjimenez/>

<http://www.scu.edu/SCU/Programs/Diversity/frjim.html>

<http://www.tolerance.org/news/article_tol.jsp?id=1024>

<http://www.teachingbooks.net/content/Jimenez_trans.pdf>

<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Breaking-Through/Francisco-Jimenez/e/9780618342488>